Voluntary Retirement Scheme

3739. SHRI BHAGATRAM MANHAR:
SHRI RAJU PARMAR:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Central Government employees to get new deal on VRS *vis-a-vis* others" appearing in the 'Business Standard', New Delhi, dated 19th March, 2001;

(b) if so, what are the broad details of the VRS for employees drawn by Government; and

(c) what is the cut-age required for VRS and what is the latest position with regard to official announcement of the Scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) The Government has seen the report published in the Business Standard, New Delhi dated 19 March, 2001 under the caption "Central Government employees to get raw deal on VRS *vis-a-vis* others".

(b) and (c) Under the Central Civil Services (Pension) Rules, 1972, a Government servant can seek voluntary retirement after he has completed 20 years of qualifying service by giving notice of not less than three months in writing to the appointing authority. These Rules further provide that the qualifying service as on the date of intended retirement shall be increased by a period not exceeding five years subject to the condition that the total qualifying service rendered by the Government servant does not in any case exceed 33 years and it does not take him beyond the date of superannuation. These Rules also provide that if a Government servant, on being declared surplus to the establishment in which he was serving, opts to retire voluntarily, instead of seeking redeployment, he shall be entitled to have five years added to the qualifying service rendered by him subject the condition that the qualifying service rendered by such Government servant is not less than 15 years on the date on which he

exercise such option and the qualifying length of service after taking into account the said addition is not more than the service he would have rendered had he retired on the date of his superannuation.

There is no proposal under consideration of the Government to revise the existing Voluntary Retirement Scheme, as referred to above, in respect of Central Government employees in general. However, the Finance Minister in his Budget Speech on 28 February, 2001 had, *inter alia*, announced that:

> "The Surplus Pool under the Department of Personnel will be streamlined and equipped to redeploy and retrain surplus staff. Employees in the Surplus Pool will also be offered an attractive VRS package."

Further action has been initiated in the context of this announcement of the Finance Minister.

Sponsoring of children of higher officers by MNCS

3740. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that children of several high ranking officers of the Union Government and Public Sector Undertakings are studying/employed abroad and are being sponsored by the Multinational Companies in order to find favours from these high ranking officers;

(b) if so, whether any enquiry has been conducted by Government in this regard;

(c) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING AND DEPARTMENT OF PENSIONS AND PENSIONERS WELFARE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) to (d) The information is not centrally available. It is, however, stated that as per the